TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office

January 27, 1999 LB 59

with a bottle bill. It wasn't only a compromise with the retailers to get the bottle bill enacted, but if at that time the Department of Health also said what a problem there are...there is with bottles being recycled inside of a store. All you have to do is go across the river and ask any retailer handles bottles about the health problem when you start putting these dirty bottles back into...back into the grocery stores, and cans, as a matter of fact, cans and bottles. Right now, when you go out, travel on our highways and you see signs that say, oh, such and such organization is cleaning up this portion of the highway, I believe we...I don't know, I doubt very much whether the state is providing any money to those organizations to pick up that trash, so there's not...there's not a cost there. There...our roads probably are...are cleaner today than they have been in years. You come...when I come down Highway 77 into Lincoln, invariably there is some organization out there cleaning up those highways, and it isn't all bottles and cans that have come from grocery stores. You see a lot of...a lot of fast food operate, you see a lot of fast food stuff that is coming into...and I, at one time, fast food operations were exempt. I don't know whether they are anymore or not and I can't say for a fact that they are, but at one time I don't know whether they are anymore their gross sales weren't up enough to get to the \$30,000. I'm sure they are. Hopefully, they're still not exempt. So as far as the compromise that was made, there were other things other than just not the grocery stores and convenience stores and service stations having to collect and hold those bottles and cans to recycle. Recycling is something else. got...there is an incentive out there for people to save You can go...any city of a their...their cans and bottles. major size has a recycling of those cans. There again I just ask you to support the amendment and try to keep the retailers, who are affected by this, in business. Business is a tough venture the way it is. And we pay a lot of ... we pay a lot of sales tax, we pay a lot of income tax, so let me tell you, I think we pay our share of taxes and now the fees. We pay a considerable amount of fees. This is just one more thing, one more \$25 fee that...it's probably not going to make or break anybody, but I... I get aggravated with the thought of getting that retailer one more, one more shot. So, with that, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.